

UNITED STATE OF AMERICA
DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION
SURFACE TRANSPORTATION BOARD



IN RE: MAJOR ISSUES IN RAIL RATE
CASES

STB Ex Parte
NO. 657 (Sub - No. 1)

ENTERED
Office of Proceedings

MAR 14 2006

Part of
Public Record

NOTICE OF INTENT TO PARTICIPATE OF
THE IOWA OFFICE OF CONSUMER ADVOCATE

The Iowa Office of Consumer Advocate (OCA), a division of the Iowa
Department of Justice, and for its Notice of Intent to Participate states:

1. Pursuant to Iowa Code §§475A.2 (2), (5) and (6). The Iowa Office of
Consumer Advocate has among others the following statutory duties:

2. Act as attorney for and represent all consumers generally and the public generally in all proceedings before the Iowa Utilities Board;
 5. Act as attorney for and represent all consumers generally and the public generally in proceedings before federal and state agencies and related judicial review proceedings and appeals, at the discretion of the consumer advocate;
 6. Appear and participate as a party in the name of the Office of Consumer Advocate in the performance of the duties of the office.
2. Railroad rates constitute a significant cost of doing business for Alliant and

MidAmerican Energy Company, the two rate regulated investor owned electric utilities in Iowa who both have substantial coal fired generation in Iowa. This cost of rail transportation of coal is generally directly passed on to Iowa retail customers of these utilities.

3. The Iowa Office of Consumer Advocate has a direct and substantial interest in this proceeding which cannot be adequately represented by any other party.

4. The Iowa Office of Consumer Advocate hereby gives its Notice of Intent to Participate in all facets of this proceeding.

Respectfully submitted,

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CONSUMER ADVOCATE



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OFFICE OF CONSUMER ADVOCATE